

On the other hand the Board of Trade statistics last year show that the railway servants injured were far fewer than 15,000. In the first three months of 1900 there were only 1,385 injured. If only 1,345 British soldiers were killed in South Africa between November 1899 and April 1901, a period of 18 months hard fighting, the percentage of fatalities is remarkably low.

Combined Loss Experience.

"Important results," says the "Argus," "have been obtained by the Governing Committee of the

Western Union in combining the experience of companies on unprofitable classes of risks and preparing new schedules. Thirty-five companies furnished their figures, and the combined results are now reported to them. The figures presented by the Governing Committee show the per cent. of loss to premiums and the increase necessary to yield an average profit of 5 per cent., with expenses estimated at 40 per cent. Stocks are reported in detail, with the following combined results in protected and unprotected towns:"

	Brick.		Frame.	
	Loss. %	Inc. %	Loss. %	Inc. %
Wholesale drugs, paints and oils....	55.5	0	11.8	0
Retail drugs, including paints and oils.	55.9	0	62.3	13
Department stores.....	77.6	41
General merchandise, country stores...	79.6	44	60.0	9
Saloons, restaurants, billiards, bowling	34.3	0	62.3	13
Barns, livery, saies, hotel.....	28.7	0	56.7	3
Above, including horse car barns.....	37.0	0	44.1	0
Car barns, electric, cable.....	49.4	0	71.7	30
Electric light and power plants.....	25.3	0	53.0	0
Canning and pickle works.....	30.5	0	58.6	6
Cotton, cotton waste, batting mills....	18.0	0	121.7	121
Woolen mills, felt works.....	84.7	54	152.0	176
Creameries and cheese factories.....	71.5	30	65.7	19
Bakeries and confectioneries, hand....	37.9	0	85.0	54
Bakeries and confectioneries, steam....	44.9	0	59.0	7
Glass Works.....	83.6	52	44.1	0
Potteries, brick, tile works.....	99.5	80	72.4	31
Machine shops.....	65.8	19	78.3	42
Tin and sheet iron works.....	107.5	95	59.9	8
Foundries, rolling mills.....	103.4	88	107.3	95
All other iron works.....	83.3	51	70.4	28
Hotels.....	35.1	0	69.7	26
Flouring and grist mills.....	55.7	0	63.6	19
Including oat meal and hominy mills.	60.5	10	78.6	42
Opera houses and theatres.....	60.8	10	60.9	10
Paper and pulp mills.....	67.5	22	29.2	0
Linseed and cotton oil mills.....	82.1	49	39.1	0
Printers, lithographers, bookbinders...	52.8	0	45.7	0
Shoe factories.....	74.1	34	56.6	2
Tobacco, cigar, snuff manufacturing....	29.5	0	90.1	63
Barns, stemmeries, rebanding, prizing	307.0	458	70.9	28
Tobacco storage, cities and towns....	136.0	147	24.5	0
Tanneries.....	60.0	10	62.8	14
Carpenter, cabinet making, turning..	42.2	0	94.2	71
Carnage, waggon, car shops.....	35.4	0	66.6	21
Plating mills, sash, door and blind....	57.3	4	71.8	30
Saw and lath mills.....	68.3	24	68.9	25
SUMMARY.				
Wholesale, protected.....	81.7	54	29.2	0
Retail, protected.....	67.7	23	58.5	6
Retail, unprotected.....	64.9	18	61.1	11

It appears from what is stated in several of our contemporaries that the above was not prepared for publication, but the table in some way got into print. In regard to this the "Insurance World says:"

"No doubt, one of the reasons, if not the principal reason, why the committee would gladly have withheld the information from the public is because they fear that as a consequence of the facts becoming known, rather extensive alterations in rates will be

called for by the public. This may be true, also, but we should think that the effect of it all would be mainly to give a tremendous impetus to the movement for scientific rating and to cause a much wider and more thorough investigation to be undertaken at once; for, it must be remembered, the fire insurance companies have at least as much reason as the public to desire this work to be done well and thoroughly. They are not anxious to carry some lines at less than cost and others at very much more than cost, but would by far prefer to have an even, moderate and sure profit upon all lines."

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE.

The annual statement of the Bank of Commerce for year ending 31st May last is the first since it took over the business of the Bank of British Columbia. A strict comparison therefore with statement of last year is not practicable, as the changes caused by the new business are not distinguishable from those which occurred independently of that source. The figures in this statement are remarkable as evidence of the expansion which has taken place in the bank's business, partly owing to the recent amalgamation, but to a large extent the growth of its connections. The Bank of Commerce has now a paid up capital of \$8,000,000, and Reserve Fund of \$2,000,000. It ranks, as to capital, second amongst the banks of Canada, a position which is maintained by the extent of its circulation, deposits and loans. The circulation at end of May was \$5,446,773, which is over 68 per cent. of the legal limit, the average of six other of the largest banks in Canada being 57 per cent. The total deposits were, at above date, \$48,004,599, of which from 5 1/2 to 6 millions were derived from the Bank of British Columbia. So large a mass of deposits, exceeding 6 times the amount of paid up capital, shows the extent of public confidence enjoyed by the Bank of Commerce, as it does also the profitable basis upon which its loans are built. The current loans and discounts amount to \$41,555,151, a sum which exceeds the deposits bearing interest by \$5,750,385. The deposits on which interest is paid, and the circulation, together making \$17,649,005, being utilized for call and short loans on stocks and bonds to extent of \$7,295,451, and investments in government and other banks, \$10,367,229, these loans and securities aggregating \$17,662,680, which closely approximates to the deposits not bearing interest and circulation.

The Bank of Commerce is honorably distinguished by the liberality with which the staff is treated. Last year they not only received increases and bonuses on a generous scale, but recently a general bonus was issued to every member of the staff from general manager down to messengers. This policy creates satisfaction and contentment throughout the staff and stimulates every officer to give his best service in promoting the bank's interests. Further comments are reserved for review of report and proceedings of the annual meeting to be held on 18th inst.